REMARKS

This Reply is responsive to a current and Non-final Office Action having a Restriction/Election Requirement that was dated 04/20/2007.

Generally, the current Office Action subjected claims 1-96 to a restriction requirement that identified thirteen (13) Groups I. - XIII. Specifically, the current Office Action restricted the claims as follows:

Group I: claims 1-18;

Group II: claims 19-25;

Group III: claims 26-31;

Group IV: claims 32-49;

Group V: claims50-55;

Group VI: claims 56-63;

Group VII: claims 64-66;

Group VIII: claims 67-69;

Group IX: claims 70-72;

Group X: claims 73-77;

Group XI: claims 78-86;

Group XII: claims 87-93; and

Group XIII: claims 94-96.

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Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Office's characterization of the claims as to groups, claimed subject matters, the accuracy of the asserted subcombinations (usable together in a single combination) relationships, the Office's reasoning for the restriction, and so forth. Nevertheless, Applicants hereby make an election in order to facilitate prosecution of the instant Patent Application and to expedite its ultimate allowance as U.S. Patent.

Applicants hereby elect, *with traverse*, to prosecute the claims of Group IV (claims 32-49) in the instant Patent Application.

However, Applicants also respectfully request that the claims of Group I (claims 1-18) also remain and be examined in the instant Patent Application. This presents 36 total claims with two independent claims: 1 and 32.

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Claim 1 reads:

1.   (original) One or more processor-accessible media comprising processor-executable instructions that, when executed, direct a device to perform actions comprising:

comparing an accuracy indicator to at least one threshold, the accuracy indicator corresponding to a reference macroblock selected for a target macroblock;

ascertaining a refinement case from a plurality of refinement cases based on the comparing, each refinement case of the plurality of refinement cases defining a plurality of test points in relation to the reference macroblock; and

analyzing the ascertained refinement case with regard to the target macroblock.

Claim 32 reads:

32.   A device comprising:

a candidate selector that is capable of accepting a current macroblock, the candidate selector adapted to select a motion vector candidate from a set of motion vector candidates with regard to the current macroblock using an accuracy indicator corresponding to the selected motion vector candidate;

a refinement case ascertainer that is capable of accepting the selected motion vector candidate and the accuracy indicator corresponding thereto, the refinement case ascertainer adapted to ascertain a refinement case from among a plurality of refinement cases based on a first threshold and a second threshold and responsive to the accuracy indicator; and

a refinement case analyzer that is capable of accepting the ascertained refinement case, the refinement case analyzer adapted to analyze a collection of points defined by the ascertained refinement case with regard to the current macroblock to potentially refine the selected motion vector candidate.

It is therefore respectfully requested that there is no burden on the Office to examine claims 1-18 with claims 32-49.

Consequently, claims 19-31 and 50-96 have been canceled. Hence, claims 1-18 and 32-49 continue to be pending and presented for examination.

Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the subject-matter(s) of the canceled claims in one or more Divisional Patent Applications.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all of claims 1-96 are allowable. With claims 1-18 and 32-49 requested to be examined in the instant Patent Application, allowance of claims 1-18 and 32-49 is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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